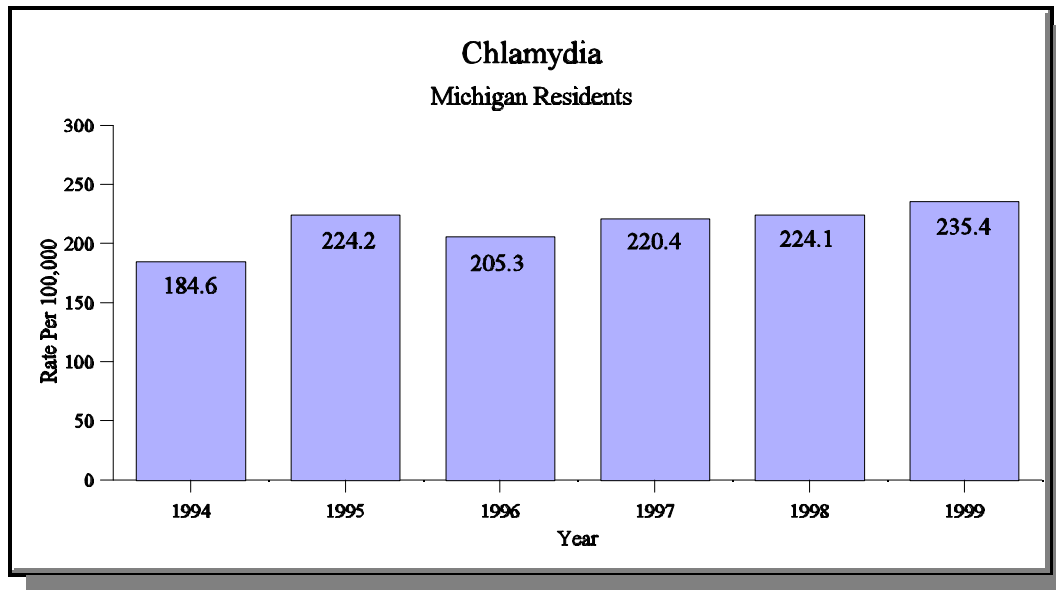


## Focused Indicators

### Morbidity and Mortality

#### *Chlamydia*



Source: Division of HIV/AIDS-STD, MDCH

### *How are we doing?*

Chlamydia is a bacterial infection predominately spread through sexual contact. It is one of the most common sexually-transmitted diseases (STD) in the U.S., responsible for an estimated four million cases each year. Chlamydia can be successfully treated with antibiotics.

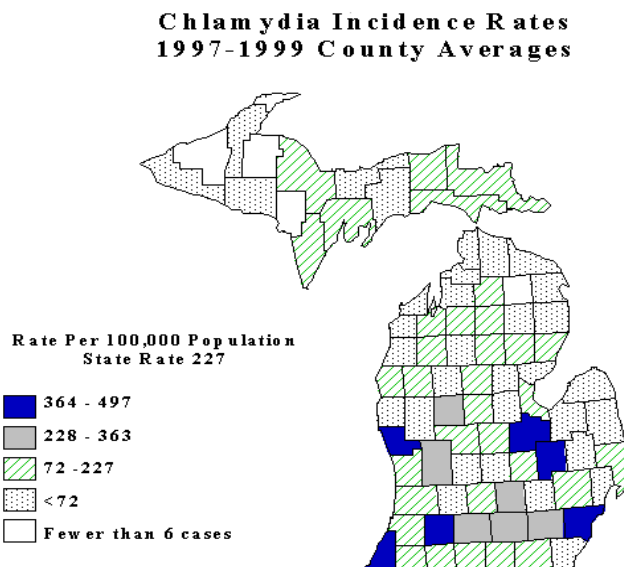
In Michigan, reporting for chlamydia began in 1992. Although the rates of chlamydia have increased since then, this may be due to the results of improved reporting and increased testing, particularly for women. However, testing in men still lags behind. In 1999, there were 23,107 reported cases of chlamydia. The rate of chlamydia incidence was 235.4 per 100,000 population. As reporting continues to improve, future rates are expected to be greater, but may more accurately reflect actual incidence in both men and women. Eventually, with enough diagnosis and treatment, rates should decrease.

### *How does Michigan compare with the U.S.?*

In 1999, Michigan's chlamydia rate of 235.4 was lower than the U.S. rate of 254.1. In spite of increased testing, chlamydia is underreported in both the U.S. and Michigan.

### ***How are different populations affected?***

Women 15-19 years-old have the highest number of reported cases with 7,486 in 1999. This represents approximately 40 percent of the 18,869 reported cases of chlamydia for women. There were only 4,237 cases reported for men in Michigan. This low level of reporting for men is a result of the lesser amount of testing for the disease in men.



### ***What other information is important to know?***

Chlamydia infection results in increased health care cost, especially among women. Chlamydia is the most common cause of infertility due to blocked fallopian tubes and complications of pregnancy. Perinatal chlamydia infections are a common cause of infant pneumonia and the most common cause of newborn eye infections.

New, more sensitive testing methodology may result in more men being tested, diagnosed, and treated for chlamydia. As testing and reporting continue to improve, it can be expected that future rates will more accurately reflect actual incidence of chlamydia.

### ***What is the Department of Community Health doing to affect this indicator?***

The department is actively working to decrease the prevalence of chlamydia and its health consequences. The department participates in the national Infertility Prevention Project (IPP) and has established nine quality monitoring sites in family planning, adolescent health, and sexually transmitted disease centers. These sites are involved in testing and targeting those at high risk, such as persons aged 15-24, those with symptoms, or those exposed to chlamydia. Infected patients are treated and interviewed for partner notification purposes. Also, family planning participates with the STD Section in the Infertility Prevention Project and provides chlamydia testing as a clinical service.

The department also provides presentations on the chlamydia epidemic in Michigan that explain the consequences and related costs of untreated disease.

**Chlamydia Rates**  
by County of Residence, Michigan Residents, 1997-1999

County of Residence	Rate
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>227</b>
Genesee County	497
Saginaw County	465
Muskegon County	430
Kalamazoo County	397
Wayne County	377
City of Detroit	745
Berrien County	364
Kent County	346
Ingham County	284
Calhoun County	271
Washtenaw County	263
Mecosta County	251
Jackson County	236
Isabella County	225
Van Buren County	180
Kalkaska County	178
St. Joseph County	168
Cass County	158
Chippewa County	141
Oakland County	128
Bay County	126
Branch County	124
Wexford County	119
Grand Traverse County	109
Mackinac County	102
Gratiot County	102
Roscommon County	101
Marquette County	100
Lake County	100
Lenawee County	99
Mason County	98
Hillsdale County	95
Ottawa County	94
Allegan County	91
Iosco County	89
St. Clair County	85
Shiawassee County	83
Luce County	81
Menominee County	79
Crawford County	78
Clare County	78

Otsego County	76
Delta County	75
Ogemaw County	74
Eaton County	74
Montcalm County	73
Tuscola County	71
Monroe County	71
Newaygo County	70
Midland County	70
Charlevoix County	69
Leelanau County	67
Cheboygan County	66
Macomb County	63
Houghton County	63
Arenac County	53
Ionia County	52
Alcona County	51
Alpena County	51
Lapeer County	50
Huron County	46
Benzie County	46
Clinton County	45
Oscoda County	45
Emmet County	44
Oceana County	42
Barry County	42
Antrim County	41
Sanilac County	40
Manistee County	39
Livingston County	32
Gladwin County	32
Schoolcraft County	30
Iron County	26
Missaukee County	22
Presque Isle County	21
Alger County	20
Gogebic County	19
Osceola County	14

Notes: Rate per 100,000 population. Rates are not calculated for counties with less than six cases.

**Source:** Division of HIV/AIDS-STD, MDCH.

Last Updated: January 2001